[*CONFIDENTIAL.*] [No. 42 of 1875.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR

The Week ending the 16th October 1875.

DACCA PRAKASH, October 3rd, 1875.

THE *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 3rd October, directs the attention of the local authorities to the tolls levied illegally from the boatmen of Dacca and the rice mahajuns who carry on their trade, on the other side of the *Buri-gungá*, by a number of men styling themselves ghât manjhees, and who profess to be authorized by the zemindars to demand this payment. Considerable oppression is practised in connection with this matter. Cesses are also illegally realized from some markets in the heart of the city itself. While on this subject, the Editor is anxious to bring to the notice of the authorities, the inconvenience to which passengers, proceeding by boat through the canals near Dacca, are subjected, by the canals being almost spanned at night by a large number of bamboo instruments for catching fish. These needlessly detain the boats for many hours.

DACCA PRAKASH.

2. The same paper, in a somewhat lengthy editorial, entitled the "Sale of justice," dwells on the fact that, judicial officers in the mofussil are apt to be biassed in favor of or against individuals by too great familiarity with the people among whom they reside and administer justice. Though bribery among the officers in this branch of the public service may now be said to exist no longer, still the evil may be seen in another shape. It is really difficult to overcome the influence of familiarity, interest, and friendship; and this is what the judicial officers are often called on to disregard. We cannot, however, say that they are always able to overcome the temptation. Hence it is that, however strict may be the vigilance employed by Government to secure an efficient administration of justice, it will hardly succeed in its object till the pernicious system we have referred to undergoes a radical change. Another form which the evil has now assumed needs some mention. Persons of respectable position who may happen to be charged with crime are sometimes allowed the option of escaping punishment by subscribing towards some charitable object. Government is besought to make enquiries into the matter.

DACCA PRAKASH.

3. The same paper regrets to notice that, a proposition has been made to abolish the posts of the Inspecting Circle Pundits in Eastern Bengal. The proposal, if carried out, will entail much hardship on a number of hard-working and able men.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, October 7th, 1875.

4. The *Amrita Bazar Patriká*, of the 7th October, writes appreciatively in reference to the reward granted by the Lieutenant-Governor to Jayanáth Shíl of Dacca for saving a person from drowning. Rewards like these and the encouragement given to gymnastic education have led the people to believe that Sir Richard Temple is really anxious to improve the physique of the Bengalis. The reward to Rájchandra Chuckerbutty, a zemindar of

Rajshahye, for the assistance he rendered the authorities in promptly detecting a criminal, has also been well earned, though it cannot but be remarked with regret that the love of reward has led the police in many instances to bring about the condemnation of innocent men.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, October 7th, 1875.

5. The same paper laments the decline and the gradual extinction of the middle class of native society. They are impoverished. A few of the class only have obtained admission into the public service, while the majority are obliged to live on their income from land, which is gradually growing less. Government is indifferent to them, though it attends to the misery of other classes, who are comparatively better off.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 16th October 1875.

JOHN ROBINSON,
Government Bengali Translator.

List of Native Newspapers received and examined for the Week ending the 16th October 1875.

No.	Names.	Place of publication.	Monthly, weekly, or otherwise.	Date.
1	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kákiniá, Rungpore ...	Weekly ...	30th September.
2	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca	Ditto ...	3rd October.
3	"Amrita Bazar Patriká" ...	Calcutta	Ditto ...	7th ditto.
4	"Sulabha Samáchár" ...	Ditto	Ditto ...	12th ditto.
5	"Urdu Guide" (*in Urdu*) ...	Ditto	Ditto ...	9th ditto.
6	"Behár Bandhu" (*in Hindí*)	Patna	Ditto ...	13th ditto.

Bengal Secretariat Press.

A. G.—Reg. No. 3824.